(Washington, DC)—Congresswoman Gwen Moore today applauded the decision by House Democratic leaders to bring to the floor of the House The Small Business Fairness in Contracting Act. Moore is a cosponsor and strong supporter of the bipartisan bill which would take action to remove barriers that have resulted in lost government contracting opportunities for small firms.

"Small Businesses are a vital part of our nation's economy, strengthening communities through job creation and innovation. One way we can grow small businesses and help them thrive is by giving them greater access to their share of the \$340 billion federal marketplace," Moore said. "I am proud to cosponsor this bill and applaud the House of Representatives for taking up this critical legislation."

The Small Business Fairness in Contracting Act expands contracting opportunities for small firms by making it harder for government agencies to create contracts that are so large that small businesses are unable to compete for them. The bill also increases the percentage of small business contracts the government must strive to award and raises the goal for contracts awarded to minority and women-owned business, increasing it from 5 percent to 8 percent. Congresswoman Moore is a member of the House Small Business Committee, which approved the bill on April 26.

If the bill passes the House today, as expected, it will be sent to the Senate for consideration there.

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